

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of the claims will replace the previous version, and the listing of the claims:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A hook device for suspending an object, comprising:

a case member having a stopping portion located at a rear side of the case member,

a hook main portion disposed in the case member to be rotatable between a store position and a use position, and having a bottom portion and an elastic member projecting rearwardly and upwardly from the bottom portion, and

an engaging portion provided at the elastic member of the hook main portion to engage the stopping portion so that the hook main portion is stopped at the use position with a predetermined open angle, at least one of said stopping portion and said engaging portion having an inclined surface so that when a load is applied to the hook main portion in the use position in a direction such that the hook main portion further opens, the elastic member is urged in a direction that the stopping portion further engages the engaging portion to thereby prevent further opening of the hook main portion.

2-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) The hook device as claimed in claim 5 1, wherein said hook main portion has a space between the bottom portion and the elastic member so that the elastic member is deformable toward the bottom portion.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The A hook device as ~~claimed in claim 7~~ for suspending an object, comprising:

a case member having a stopping portion,

a hook main portion disposed in the case member to be rotatable between a store position and a use position, and having an elastic member, and

an engaging portion provided at the elastic member of the hook main portion to engage the stopping portion so that the hook main portion is stopped at the use position with a predetermined open angle, at least one of said stopping portion and said engaging portion having an inclined surface,

wherein said engaging portion has an inwardly inclined surface relative to a radial line extending from a rotational axis of the hook main portion, and said elastic member is flexible and arranged such that when a load is applied to the hook main portion in the use position in a direction such that the hook main portion further opens, the elastic member is urged and moved in a direction that the stopping portion further engages the engaging portion to thereby prevent further opening of the hook main portion and surely engage the stopping portion.

9. (currently amended) The hook device as claimed in claim 8, wherein said stopping portion and said engaging portions have ~~same~~ similar inwardly inclined surfaces.